Peter Skutches
Richard Gallen & Co.,
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5/4/94

Dear Peter,

To respond to your question in your 4/29, there was an addition to the Afterword. It was delayed because I depend upon what others send me, and what I was sent from the NY Times, which I got from South Carolina, was delayed even more. By that time I'd heard from a dear New Zealand friend so I include herewith corrections and additions in the addition to the Afterword.

I hope it is clear. If not please let me know. ~~YESTERDAY~~ was a difficult but in the end wonderful day because the removal of my wife's second cataract and correction of her astigmatism went that well. We'll know more later this morning when I take her for the removal of the protective patch and examination. For different reasons, each of us got little sleep the night before and we were both exhausted by the time we were back from the hospital.

She fell last week and broke a wrist, so I cannot get her to retype the enclosed.

I spent several hours just sitting and watching her after we were home and had lunch. She just could not stay awake and lacked the energy to walk to the bedroom. I tell you this because when you are older it may be the kind of knowledge that may be useful to you. Perhaps not only older people but older people in particular are much better off if someone else is with them when they get medical instructions. My wife was given strict instructions not to fall asleep with her head bent over on the side from which the cataract was removed because of the resultant internal pressures. And she kept doing that. So, each time I woke her, until she was ready to go to bed. I had that time for some thinking. But not only was I too weary for it, I did not take time to catch up on the mail. Or to do what I enclose.

I hope there is meaning support for which I do not see elsewhere in your concluding sentence, "I hope you are feeling ~~better~~ a little more comfortable."

With regard to The New York Review of Books, I decided to do what I had decided not to do not knowing its policy since then and recalling that it had a negative policy toward assassination stories in the 60s. I phoned Silver. The call was screened, what I said got him on the phone, we spoke briefly, and he said he is interested in the long story I'd written about Posner's book a month or so ago in the hope that there would belatedly be what is normal, some publisher interest in placing it. The last person I'd mentioned it to is John Mooney two weeks ago. I also sent a long story "Senator Russell Dissents" a month or so ago. It has not ~~xx~~ even been acknowledged. And you can see how topical it became suddenly from the enclosure.

Silver made no promise other than to read it the day after he got it. He did say the subject could interest him.

So, I drove into town immediately and sent it to him by Priority Mail. He should have it not later than today.

It is a retyped rough draft, amateur retyped but much better than mine, by a student.

I told him in advance that if he likes it to feel free to do whatever editing he may want as long as no meanings are changed.

I hope he is aware of the topicality of the single-bullet theory now and of its indispensibility in Posner's book as it was in the Commission's Report.

As, apparently, nobody having anything to do with selling Case Open seems to be.

That Tiems story of three weeks ago was a very good peg on which to hang something but it apparently did not remind anyone that I had that story written.

I have no idea how Case Open is selling but I'm getting from 2 to about 6 letters a day and they have all been at the least very favorable.

In the convoluted life I lead, which will have me leaving at about 4 a.m. for a little early morning walking, I'll mail this so that you may perhaps have it by the time you get to reading the Afterword. I do hope you can see that not one of the these developments shows any error in my work and almost all at the least endorse it. That is the big advantage of eschewing all but actual rather than imagined evidence. These new development, as did so much a year ago, create a fine situation for NEVER AGAIN! And on that I call to your attention that what I have in it relating to those taped LBJ calls has not yet been disclosed in two supposedly full disclosures of them. If you do not recall this and want to be reminded, let me know.

Hopefully I'll get back to your letter and the pictures after I take my wife for her patch removal and examination. I do want to call to your attention, though, that I do not see in what I'm glad you xeroxed and enclosed some pictures, ~~prhots~~ prints, that I sent some months ago. Searching for that here entails problems I hope you never have to face.

Thanks and best wishes,

Harold